

*Flies as a Means of Communicating Contagious Diseases.*—Prof. LEIDY remarked that at this time, during the prevalence of smallpox, he was reminded of an opinion he had entertained that flies were probably a means of communicating contagious disease to a greater degree than was generally suspected. From what he had observed in one of the large military hospitals, in which hospital gangrene had existed, during the late rebellion, he thought flies should be carefully excluded from wounds. Recently he noticed some flies greedily sipping the disfluent matter of some fungi of the *Phallus impudicus*. He caught several, and found that on holding them by the wings they would exude two or three drops of liquid from the proboscis, which, examined by the microscope, were found to swarm with the spores of the fungus. The stomach was likewise filled with the same liquid, swarming with spores.

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NOVEMBER 28.

The President, Dr. RUSCHENBERGER, in the chair.

Twenty-three members present.

The deaths of Rev. E. E. Adams and Gen. F. F. Cavada, correspondents of the Academy, were announced.

Prof. COPE made some remarks on the fauna of the Wyandotte Cave in Southern Indiana. He stated that the blind fish of the Mammoth Cave (*Amblyopsis spelæus*) was not rare in waters flowing from it, and that an *Astacus*, probably *A. pellucidus* also occurred. He had detected two species of *Anophthalmus*, both of which were new, according to Dr. Horn; and three *Staphylinidæ*, two of which were to be described by Dr. Horn. A cricket of the genus *Raphidophora*, and two species of flies, were also common. There were two species of spiders, one a true *Aranean*, the other allied to *Opilio*. A centipede allied to *Pseudotremia* was very abundant. A curious aquatic crustacean with external egg-pouches was found in an old trough. The most remarkable animal is a crustacean of the Lernæan division, found parasitic on the upper lip of the *Amblyopsis*. It had an elongate cephalothorax, oval abdomen separated by a constriction, not distinctly segmented, and with short egg-pouches. The anterior limbs modified into a single strong peduncle. The form appeared to be allied to *Achtheres*, but the single undivided peduncle distinguished it generically. He called it *Cauloxenus stygius*.

Prof. Cope exhibited a number of specimens of fossil reptiles recently procured by him in Western Kansas, in the Cretaceous Chalk. They consisted of two specimens of *Liodon proriger*, Cope, and portions of jaws with teeth of four new Pythonomorph 1872.]

reptiles, viz.: *Edestosaurus tortor*, Cope; *Holcodus coryphæus*, Cope; *H. ictericus*, Cope; and *Liodon curtirostris*, Cope. The first was regarded as a very slender form, with a cranium two and one-half feet in length, and with compressed teeth. The others were much stouter species, the *H. coryphæus* having a high occipital crest and long acute teeth. Length thirty feet. The two remaining species were about the same size.

The following gentlemen were elected members: Richard Day, Thos. E. Parke, M.D., Commodore John P. Gillis, U.S.N., Samuel W. Pennypacker, Richard A. Lewis, W. Grier Hibler, Louis Stillé, M.D., Jas. A. Ogden, Roland G. Curtin, M.D., Allen Shryock.

The following were elected correspondents: Geo. Stewardson Brady, M.D., of Sunderland, Eng'd., Prof. W. C. Kerr, of Raleigh, N. C., Dr. Jos. K. Corson, U.S.A., J. Van A. Carter, M.D., of Fort Bridger, Wyoming.

On favorable report of the committee, the following paper was ordered to be published:—